

2

10/580,657 filed 5/26/06  
Amendment dated 6/27 /08  
Reply to office action of 3/27/08

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 27 2008

5 **Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions; and listings  
of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

10 **What is claimed is :**

1.(Cancelled)

2.(Cancelled)

15 3. (Cancelled)

4.(Cancelled)

5.(Cancelled)

20 6.(Cancelled)

7 (Cancelled)

25 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

30 10.(Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [9] 13,  
characterized by a further step of measuring said compression  
[property] as the brake cools.

35 11.(Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [8] 13  
,further including the step of: comparing differences and/or ratios of  
the measured values of said [property] compression with differences  
and/or ratios of the corresponding prerecorded values.

12.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim [8]13 further including the step of: measuring an electrical magnitude associated with the conductivity or electrical resistivity of a portion of  
5 the brake pad (2)-~~or of its friction lining (3)~~.

13. (New) A method for monitoring the application of a motor vehicle automatic parking brake by driven means by sensing the compression of at least one brake pad (2) on engagement with a brake disk (1) through a first actuation force to prevent rotation of a wheel  
10 on a vehicle associated with the brake disk following a command to apply the automatic parking brake including the following steps: measuring the compression of the brake pad that varies as a function of the force applied to the brake disk in response to the first actuation force; comparing the measured compression with a prerecorded value;  
15 and commanding the application of an additional second actuation force to the parking brake if the measured compression is below the prerecorded value to prevent the rotation of the wheel as a result of relaxation of the disk brake after a first period of time and activating a signal for the attention of the driver of the vehicle whenever the  
20 measurement is below the prerecorded value.

14.(New) The method according to Claim 13, characterized by the step of: measuring the compression of the brake pad (2) occurs at different instants following a command to apply the parking brake  
25 such that the parking brake has sufficient time to relax.

15.(New) The method according to Claim 13, characterized by the steps of: measuring a first value of the compression of the pad before the parking brake is applied, measuring a second value of the  
30 compression while the brake is being applied by the driven application means; and measuring a third value of the compression mechanical locking of the wheel and return of the application means to a position of rest.